The word loyalty, says Dean Treach in his exellent little treatise on the "Study of Words," "being derived from the French loi, expresses properly that fidelity which one owes according to to the royal person which happily we in England have been able further to throw into the word."

In England this attachment to the royal person has become an integral element of "loyalty" in the true sense of the term, because that attachment is not solely personal in its nature, as must be the case in unlimited monarchies, where it exists at all, but is a sentiment cherished towards the reigning sovereign, apart from his personal qualities, as the legal incumbent of the executive office, with its prerogatives and responsibilities defined by the constitution of the realm. The poet Cowper truly expressed the sentiment and the ground of English loyalty when he wrote,

"We, too, are friends to loyalty. We love The King who loves the law, respects its bounds,

An intelligent correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger, a neutral print, has recently discussed this topic with equal discrimination and candor We eite from his communication to that journal the following extracts:

"In theory, all parties would consent to accept Trench's definition. But not so in practice. Every day men are denounced as 'disloyal.' Why? Because they are in sympathy with the South? No. Because they are opposed to the war? No. Because they would have the war conducted with less vigor? No. Their great complaint is that it has been waged with inefficiency. Because they are the friends of slavery? No. They would hall its removal, in any wise and equitable way, as a boon of unuterable value to the country. Wherein, then, lies their 'disloyalty?' Why, they are not ready to sanction all the measures which the Administration has adopted for carrying "In theory, all parties would consent to accept Trench's measures which the Administration has adopted for carrying on the war. They distinguish between any existing Administration istration and the Government. The Constitution is with unt to the Legislature, the Judiciary, and the them paramount to the Legislature, the Judiciary, and the Executive. It was, in their view, made for all times and seasons. It has carried us through two wars. It will carry us through a third. To admit that it may be set aside by any of the authorities confessedly suboid note to it, and deriving their existence from it, is to proclaim to the world the dissolution of the Union. For the Union rests solely upon the Constitution; and to set aside the Constitution is to resolve the Union into its primitive

"Such is the ressoning of the class of persons we have in view—many of whom have cheerfully given their money their sons, and their whole influence to the support of the war. They are charged with disloyalty, nevertheless, be cause, among other things, 'they do not approve of the emancipation proclamation.' It we are right in our definition of loyalty, their estimate of that already celebrated State paper has nothing to do with the question. They mry be as loyal to the Constitution, as loyal to the Union, as loyal to the Government as the President himself, withas loyal to the Government as the President himself, without ancetioning this or any other specific measure of the
Administration. To make the approval of every step an
Administration may choose to take the test of loyalty, is to
convert the President into a Persian satrap, and the free
cit zens of the Republic into miserable serfs, who have no
longer the right even to think for themselves. It is also
to establish a rule as fluctuating as it is arb trary. What was loyal yesterday may become disloyal to-day, and the patriot of to-day may be branded as a traiter to morrow."

These remarks are entirely just, but it is precisely because they are just that great candor and consideration should be exercised in all judgments pronounced on the incumbents of high official place, who may rightfully claim a degree of honor as due to their station, irrespective of the personal qualities which they bring to the station. This we understand to be the idea of an eminent divinewe allude to the Rev. Dr. Bellows-who, in a recent discourse, has held the following language on the respect due to civil rulers, as such :

"The head of a nation is a sacred person, representing for the time he holds his office, the most valuable and so-lems rights and duties of a people. 'The Government' is 'upon his shoulder,' and the Government is the mighty piller that fastens in order and holds in eafety the ten thousand varying interests, rights, and obligations of a nation. File at the steple which God fastens to his own throne, in the oaths of office which make a man chief ruler of a people, and you loosen thoughtlessly every link in that chain of law and order which binds society together. There is something in the chief magistrate of a people infin tely more important than his personal qualities, his judgment, his intelligence, his rectitude. It is his office his representative character. his representative character, as the national head. He can truly say with Louis XIV: 'I he State—it is I. Disnor me and you disgrace the nation! Weaken me and you undermine the country! Speak or think lightly of my oath, my office, my place, and you cheapen yourselves, your insututions, your hopes, and prospects. I know the attempt d refinements with which a hoentions press, or a thoughtless public, attempt to evade their duty by distinguishing between the man and his office, despising and abusing the one while affecting to henor and respect the other. But practically—in times of revolution or war capecially—there can be no distinction. The office is so much larger than the man that any shore directed at him hits it in spite of the marksman. You cannot rudely assail the personal character or judgment of a chief magistrate wi hout weakening public respect for the office he holds This fact makes it of the utmost importance to select rulers whose characters and qualifications do not invite dirrespect. But, however carelessly nominated, once elected, they ought to be thenceforth free from the torque of light irm or coarse abuse for their office sake. believe that the free and easy tongue of our people, in dis-cussing the personal character and claims of our chief magistrates while in office during the last twenty years, has contributed greatly to the demoral zations for the Presi-has cheapened the standard of qualifications for the Presithe same time perhaps the chief danger in our public affairs."

Without subscribing to the letter of the doctrine here propounded, we are free to express our entire concurrence in its spirit. Under institutions like ours it may not become the President ever to say, with Louis Quatorze, l'état, c'est moi, but, within the sphere of his constitutional duties, the President may justly claim the cheerful support of all good citizens, and even when he errs he is to be met only by that opposition which has candor for its motive, and which, in its manifestations, is restrained within the bounds of the law. Personal abuse and disparagement of the President, like that indulged in by the anti-slavery radicals who find a mouth-piece in Wendell Phillips, or like that allowed to themselves by a portion of the Democratic press, forms no part of a "loval opposition," and is as disgraceful to those who take this license as it is derogatory to the character and incompatible with the beauty of free institutions. We are not required to give place by subjection for one hour to the unconstitutional demands of the Executive, or of any other Department of the Government, but personal vilification of the Chief Magistrate is a form of political resistance which tends alike to degrade the authors and the subject of such cheap vituperation. A true political opposition, like a worthy political allegiance, should base itself on principle and not on considerations of a personal nature : for, without supreme adherence to principle, political opposition is perpetually in danger of degenerating into faction, as, without the same paramount rule of conduct, political allegiance becomes only another name for

EXPLOIT OF THE QUEEN OF THE WEST. JACKSON, (MISS.) FEB. 9 .- A despatch dated the 4th instant says that the Federal ram Queen of the West landed at Vidalia, opposite Natchez, and attempted to capture Col. Zebulon York, but he escaped The ram steamed down the river, doing considerable damage.

A Vicksburg despatch of the 31 instant cays that the purpose of the 1sm was to destroy the rebel shipping be-

When the first "proclamation of freedom" issued on the 22d of September last, unaccompanied as it was with a statement of the considerations which had induced the President to depart

law, and does not necessarily include that attachment | from the policy previously prescribed to himself in the conduct of the war, we were tempted, in giving publication to the paper, to adopt the following hypothesis on the subject. We quote from the Intelligencer of last September 28d :

"We are not without the suspicion that the President "We are not without the suspicion that the President has taken this method to convince the only class of persons likely to be pleased with this proclamation of the utter fallacy of the hopes they have founded upon it. This opinion, we may add, derives confirmation from the fact that he suspends for some mouths the enforcement of so much of his declaration as denounces the emanipation of slaves in punishment for contumacy on the part of the Insurgent States, while he gives immediate force and effect, so far as force and effect result from proclamations, to the regula tions prescribed by the new article of war and the proviions of the confiscation act in the matter of slaves.'

According to these "regulations" and "provisions" all slaves escaping from the Insurgent States within our army lines were declared free, and as it had been confidently predicted that such an official declaration and pledge, coming from the President, would lead to a general "stampede" of slaves from the South, and thus upturn the very basis of the insurrection, it seemed to us that, if he had no other motive in issuing the proclamation, he might at least have promised himself the incidental advantage of testing by it the sagacity of the political advisers who were most urgent in their "pressure" for such a manifesto.

Addressed, as this manifesto was, (in the invitation it extended.) to the "loval blacks" of the South, it was not, so far as regards its practical efficacy, a matter of any importance how it was viewed at the North; for, whatever may have been the theoretical objections of any in that quarter to the form or substance of the proclamation, it is obvious that if there was among the "loyal blacks" that degree of alacrity and facility to escape from the service of their rebel masters which was ascribed to them by the patrons of the proclamation, we should see a demonstration that would soon put to shame the cavils of "hair-splitting critics."

We have long since absolved ourselves from the duty of considering "the proclamatiog" in the light of the political principles it involves, and, eschewing further controversy on the topic, we wait only as impartial journalists to chronicle its results, as they are developed by events and admitted by the friends of the measure.

Among the most determined friends of the mea sure, as we all know, is that able politico-religious journal, the New York Independent, to whose columns we are accustomed to look for the clearest and most definite statement of the current views entertained by the party to which it belongs. In its issue of the last week our able contemporary. under the head of "The Conflict of Ages," thus refers to the disappointment of the hopes which had been founded on the "proclamation of free dom." We quote them, as before said, not for the purpose of controversy, but simply as signs of the time for the information of our readers :

"As it becomes at length apparent that the ship of State is launched upon a long and difficult voyage, and can find her haven only through storms and perils, a very natural feeling of disappointment arises in the public mind, and even among those who have a real interest and confidence in the principles which govern our national course. At first we hoped to see slavery b filed and defeated under the peaceful forms of legislation; when that hope was destroyed by the outbursts of rebellion, we looked to see the sys tem speedily overthrown by the mere fortune, nay, by the very fact, of war; this failing, we trusted that the proclamation would work a speedy accomplishment of our triumph, until at length we begin to discover that conflicts and trials are yet before us. This kind goeth not out but by prayer

Our contemporary then proceeds to reconcile its readers to the prospect before them by adducing for their instruction and comfort certain analogies of nature and history, which are suggestive of patience under the chronic tribulations incident to all great and beneficent changes, whether occurring in the physical or social world. It cites the experience of the geologist, who, seeing how powerful is the influence of the existing and normal agencies of nature. is tempted to imagine that the rain and the dew, the sunshine and the frost, are adequate to account for all the changes that the earth has experienced. In so doing, adds the Independent, he is in danger of forgetting "that there have been convulsions in which the loftiest peaks have been submerged and the bed of the ocean upheaved into mountains. So we are apt to imagine that our familiar agencies of reform, which by their steady influence accomplish so much, are the only ones that are needed: and we forget that through all the course of history there have been great volcanic periods, in which the stable earth has rocked beneath the feet of men; and that these violent agencies have borne a necessary part in the great progress of society."

And the lessons of history are made sources of the system of feudal and predial slavery was only gradually exterminated by a combination of military and moral agencies. Foremost among these "military agencies" were, it says, the wars of the crusades. Under this head, it reasons as follows:

"When the Crusaders roused the whole stagnant life of the peasants to activity, and sent hither and thither throughout France, on the high business of the boly war, thousands of strangers whom the law could not consider thousands of strangers whom the law could not consider slaves, it was no longer possible to act on the supposition that every stranger was a slave. The nobles, too, were in numberless cases absent, or had sold their feudal estates and rights to the burgesses; and the old vigilance of a multitude of petry tyrants was henceforth befiled. Every where among the verfs a class of men began to spring up, accustomed to carry arms in their hands, to go whither they would, and to call no man master; and thencefort Europe began to be free.

"Such were the principal circumstances which inaugurated the birth of a cl. se of freemen in modern society The old system had first to be broken up; whole orders and classes of men had to be ground to powder between the humble population on the one ride, and the monarch on the other, to make way for liberty. Then Christian sentiments found room for their operation. The conscience of a penitent master might then find some relief in eman-cipating the seris be had long oppressed; and, 'pro reme-dio anima,' the dying sinner might be impelled to do jus-tice. The great work of the Crusales was the destruc-tion of that slaveholding aristocracy which had been for generations an incubus upon society, repressing all growth of freedom, and crushing each hopeful germ of improvement. For the destruction of this remorseless horde-of graduated tyrants no price was too great to be paid. The profoundest agitation that society has ever witnessed, the bloodiest wars that the earth has ever beheld, the most profess experd ture of treasure, the most extraordinary uprisings and invasions that history records-all this for pe iod of two hundred years, in order to terminate the slaveholding of Europe! That was the meaning of the Crusades: the Divice purpose in the existence of Moham-

In the light of these analogies and parallels, our

A "CONFLICT OF AGES." | slavery. Pointing the moral of its elaborate arti-

"Let us not be surprised, then, if the extirpation of our long slavery should prove a serious and difficult achieve-ment. Let us not distrust the principles of justice and freedom, nor the God who has ever been their strength, if we find that long conflicts and great dissensions are before us. The struggle may try our powers, and test our faithfulness and our endurance to the utmost. It will be only in accordance with the divine methods of the past it should. The nations who look coldly on the long agony of our convulsion may believe it fatal, and with selfist artisfaction. satisfaction, may pronounce the grandest nation of all his-tory 'as dead as the Heptarchy;' but they know not the greatness of the principles which are at stake, nor the vitality of the people which God has prepared for the as sertion of them."

POLITICAL PROPHECY

There is one form of political inquiry to which we imagine, the most sensitive time-server can bring no objection, and in which he can dis cern no trace of "disloyalty." It is that which seeks to try the inspiration of certain political prophets by comparing their predictions with the course of events.

Whatever may be said in defence of the " Eman cipation Edict," it is at least very certain that it has not brought to pass all the great things which its sanguine patrons expected at its hands. So true is this, and so universally is the fact admitted by the best friends of that "war measure." that Mr. Wendell Phillips, in his recent speech on "Oar Future," expressed the belief that "the President in his heart to-day doubts whether his proclamation has done more harm than good." Yet we all know the magnificent auguries under which he was "pressed" to issue it.

Bringing to the touchstone of experience a few of the predictions made by the New York Tribune, in anticipation of the proclamation, the New York World propounds the following significant interrogatories :

"What, then, have we witnessed as the fruit of the Union volunteers? (Gov Andrew.) Have we seen such multitude of slaves flying from every part of the South that our enemies must thenceforth devote half their strength to keeping the rest back? (Tribune, Inle 17.) Have we witnessed as the consequence of the July 17) Have we witnessed, as the consequence of emsneipation edict, 'a speedy and overwhelming Union triumph?' (Tribune, July 19.) Have we seen 'three 'times three bundred thousand born and naturalized Yan-'kees, who never smelt battle, all join in the grand old chorus of human nature, and its own clear, musical, glorious, burning, self-evident words, the old chorus of liberty forever, all join in and march on, knowing, every blesred mother's son of them, that what is going to be done now is to save the country?' (Tribune, August 'done now is to save the country?' (Tribune, August 2.) Has emancipation 'pierced the very vitals of the revolt?' (Tribune, August 6.) Did the proclamation, as was predicted, 'just lift the nation right off its feet, and surprise it into one unanimous yell of enthusiasm?' (Tribune, August 8.) Did the proclamation fulfill the prophecy that it 'wou'd give an immediate reinforcement to the Union armies equal to a hundred veteran regiments and fifty well-served batteries?' (Tribune, August 11.) Did it give such a mighty impulse to the Union cause that Did it give such a mighty impulse to the Union cause that three months will see the rebellion utterly squelched and bring the traitors to their marrow bones?' (Tribune,

Just a month before the first " Proclamation Freedom" was issued by President Lincoln, the New York Tribune risked the proph cy that "the war could not last until Christmas" if every fugitive "who comes to us from Jeffdom be welcomed as a freeman." About two weeks before the edict of last September 22d was issued, this same enthu sisstic journal expressed the belief that "if this policy were once adopted in good faith and thoroughly carried out, sixty days would amply suffice to break the backbone of the slaveholders' rebellion."

Now that the policy has been "adopted," as we must suppose "in good faith," and is being carried out as "thoroughly" as the nature of the case admits of, we are commended by the Tribune to the following startling proposition in lieu of the sixty days within which the "backbone of the slaveholders' rebellion" was to be broken by a proclamation, according to the prophecy adventured by that journal on the 6th of September last. We

quote from the Tribune of the 22d ultimo : "If three months more of earnest fighting shall not serve to make serious impression upon the robes; if the end of that term shall find us no further advanced than its begin-ning; if some malignant fate has decreed that the blood and treasure of the nation shall ever be equandered in fruitless efforts, let us bow to our destiny and make the

It is thus evident that the ecstacy of the political inspiration under which the former predictions were made is fast passing away. It was, therefore, to be expected that our prophetic contemporary would begin to lose heart and hope : but it is precisely at the point where such enthusiasts despair that more steadfast and courageous souls will bear up and steer right onward."

BORDER STATE LOYALTY.

It is quite common for over-z-alous partisans of the Administration in Congress and in the Press to speer at Border State loyalty" as something quite unworthy to e mentioned in any connexion, however remote, with their devotion to the Union. We have more than once protested sgainst this injustice. In our judgment, if the Union is saved, it will be due quite as much to the efforts of loyal men in Missouri, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Maryland, as to the more fervid, but not more serviceable, zeal of Massachusetts and New York. It is due to these States to bear in mind the greater sacrifices they made in adherappeal, for the purpose of showing that in Europe ing to the Union cause. We of the North have known nothing of the evils and agonies of a divided sentiment at home-of divisions which pervaded neighborhoods, social circles, and penetrated even to the hearthstene, which armed the father against the son and brother against brother. So far as any personal contact with the question has been concerned, our people have been unanimous Our interests have all been one way. In the Border States this was by no means the case. The civil war has there touched the very heart of society; and no man espoused either side without a sacr fice of the feelings, prejudices, and hopes of a lifetime. Yet these States have stood nobly by the Government, and have contributed very largely have come to its support .- New York Times.

> Two hundred rebel prisoners, who were taken at Murfreesboro, voluntarily took the oath of allegiance to the United States at St. Louis on the 4th instant, and were discharged. They are destitute of money, clothing, shoer, &c., and the President of the Sanitary Commission in that city solic to aid in their behalf.

ARMY OF THE FRONTIER.

A despatch dated at St. Louis, February 6 h, states that movement of the Army of the Frontier was ordered teveral days ago, which was supposed to be directed toward Little Rock, but when the troops were all ready to start the order was countermanded. Gen. Blant's division is now at Crane Creek, Totten's is at Flat Creek, and Herron's is at Forsyth, all within forty-five miles of Springfie'd Bloomfield, which was taken by the enrolled milit's week before last, and evacuated next day, has been re-occupied by rebel guerillas, who are arresting Union men as hostages for guerilles taken prisoners at Bloomfield.

COTTON SPECULATORS .- A Memphis observer, describ ng the immense rush after cotton along the railroad between Jackson and Vicksburg, says:

DR. BRECKINBIDGE'S VIEWS.

The Rev. ROBERT J. BRECKINBIDGE, D.D., of Kentucky, who is equally distinguished for his learning, cloquence, and loyalty, has recently contributed to the Danville Review, of which he is the editor, a remarkable article on "Negro Slavery," considered in its relations to our "civil war."

Dr. Breckinridge, we need not say to our readers, has long been conspicuous for the zeal and constancy he has displayed in the cause of emancipation, having been one of the most active, as he was confessedly one of the most able, of the citizens of Kentucky who have urged the initiation of measures looking to the removal of slavery from that State. The last concerted effort in this direction was made by Dr. Breckinridge and others about thirteen years ago, on the occasion of the formation and adoption of a new State Constitution. His views of political duty and economical policy did not then prevail, but they were enforced with an earnestness which sufficiently indicated the strength of his convictions. It cannot be charged, therefore, that the animadversions of such a man on the President's "Proclamation of Freedom" are inspired by any love of slavery, or by any "sympathy with rebels." And yet in the article we have designated he protests against the proclaimed policy of the President, declaring it unconstitutional, uncalled for, inexpedient, and dangerous But at the same time he avows his unalterable devotion to the cause of the American Union, and his faith in the final overthrow of the "iniquitous reballion."

As the fervent loyalty of Dr. Breckinridge is a indisputable as his ability, this paper of his, if it had no other value, would at least serve to show, by a signal instance, how earnestly and conscientiously a man of determined patriotism may dissent from any particular measure of the present Administration without subjecting himself to the slightest suspicion, among men whose good opinion is entitled to any respect, of cherishing a thought adverse to the honor or welfare of his country. The creed of Dr. Breckinridge, under the head of slavery in its bearings on the war for the Union, is thus succinctly stated, in that compact and stately style of which he is a master :

"We have no doubt that God, in his own good time and way, will give to the human race that freedom which it lost before the dawn of history, which it has always sigh-ed for, which is never understood, and which but a small portion of it now possesses. We have no doubt it is the duty of all men, each according to his place and his degree, to strive that this and every other real blessing should be obtained by every one competent to erjoy and

use it aright
"But we believe in the providence of God; and it seems o us a folly, if not a sin, to attempt to frustrate the cours of Providence—whether by heatening or by retarding it or in any other way. And we believe in the bluding obligation of ten thousand duties, higher than the special one of striving to set free all the slaves in America who are fi to be free; and do not believe it any body's duty to set those free who are unfit to be free; and, after much exper ence, we greatly doubt whether it is best, by individu cases, to set a few negroes free in States where the blacks enerally remain slaves Moreover, both from instinct and from a sense of duty, we prefer our own country far above all others, and our race far beyond all besides; and we will never consent to endanger, much less to ruin, the one or the other, upon considerat on of the advantage therey to African slaves.

by to African slaves.

"The emancipation of slaves in America, beginning at the North in small numbers, has gradually proceeded South and to large numbers. It will go forward, in our opinion in the same way, by a process certain in itself, but liable to be disturbed and retarded. From our earliest manhood long ago, we have thought and said Kentucky would con suit her interest, her duty, and her fame by proceeding with the work. She thought not; and the has loved an trusted us too much for us to rebake her, even when w hought the erred.

"We do not believe that the slaves, generally, in a single cotton or sugar State of this nation, are now qualified to use or enjoy freedom, or that any of those States are in a condition to set them free. We do not believe that the Federal Government has the least power, of peace or war, to abolish slavery in any State; nor that the pretext set up to justify such an attempt ought to have any influence upon just and culightened men. We believe that servi-tude, in all its forms, is an incident of the fallen condition of man-like poverty or sickness-and not a sin of itself that hereditary slavery is the worst form of servitude; and that all mea ought to do what they can to alleviate the evils and miseries of slavery, poverty, sickness, and every badge of our fallen state.

"In the question of vested rights to property under the Federal Constitution, we do not believe that the inquiry concerning the moral character of the property is one petent for Congress or the President to make; but if they will make it about slavery, their decision ought to be stated

"The difference in color of various races of human beings we believe to have been intentionally brought about by God, for righteous ends, which are unknown to us, and that God will figally give to each of these races that partition of the earth best fitted for them.

. We do not believe that any two of the three great races-black, yellow, and fair-can, if any where near each other's equal as to number, live contentedly together in peace and equality, except where all are equally slaves, or where polygamy is permitted; and, therefore, that in S'ave States, where the slaves and masters are of diff. rent races, and the slaves numerous, emancipation should al-ways be followed by the colonization of the slaves; and we believe that the founding of black free States, within the tropics, is one of the highest necessities of the human

We believe that this civil war will probably, in legit mate projecution of it, greatly weaken the political power of the Slave States, relatively considered; that it will demoralize the institution of slavery to a fearful extent; and that results from it may be reached concerning s'avery, in opposite directions, far beyond our ability

"And finally, we do not believe that the existence slavery is so serious an obstacle to our triumph as t any apprehension, or any resort to unusual or illegal acis; while, on the other band, its total destruction, in the due, vigorous, and legal prosecution of the war to com-plete success, ought not to hinder us from putting the doctrine and practice of secession forever at rest."

THE PRIVATEER ALABAMA.

It is reported that the privateer Alabama arrived at Kingston, Jamaica, on the 20th of January, and landed the crew of the United States steamer Hatterse, and the the privateer was so badly damaged by the shot of the Hatterns that immediate repairs were required at Kingston. These reports come from Key West, and are said to be founded on a communication received by Rear Admiral Bailey, in command on that station, from our Consul to the courage, the endurance, and the patriotism which General in Havana. It is added that immediately on the receipt of the news in Havana the United States steamers Wachusett and Oneida sailed direct for Kingston, and the Santiago de Cuba and R. R. Cuyler, then on the south side of Cuba, were ordered to the same port, and the Tioga and Sonoma were also steering in the same direction. If these statements be correct, and the repairs of the Alabams kept her in port four days, she is blockaded, for the entrance to the harbor of Kingston is so narrow that it can be effectually barricaded by eix vessels lying even beyoud the limit of neutral waters.

ASSAULT ON FORT MCALLISTER.

The Port Royal correspondent of the New York Times gives an account of the second engagement of the iron-clad Mentauk with the rebel batteries at the mouth of the Ogeechee river. She fired in the aggregate about eighty rounds, but was unable to breach the work in consequence of the thickness of the embankment. She was struck forty-six times, but received no other damage than the starting of a few bults in her pilot-house by a rifle shot. and the shattering of her smoke-stack. It is considered probable that no further attempt will be made on Fort McAllister by the Montauk until she has done some other

learned contemporary is conducted to the following useful and instructive deduction with regard to the probable duration of the secular conflict on the probable duration of the secular conflict on the probable duration of the destruction of the secular conflict on the probable duration of the secular confli

POLITICAL ODDS AND ENDS.

Mr. WM. CORNELL JEWETT, the coadjutor of Mr. GREELEY in the work of creating a sentiment favorable to foreign mediation in our affairs for the purpose of making peace, has published a letter "defining his position" and that of his distinguished co-laborer. After detailing his efforts in Europe in the cause of mediation he proceeds to

"On returning I made an address to the American people, through the Portland Advertiser, urging 'media-tion,' amid general hostility—from a believed hostility of France in the move—in connexion with the South. My plan was, first, to seek the power of Hon. Horace Greeley-thus reach the Republican party; secondly, Count Mercier, thereby power to remove the prejudice against France. In interviews with Mr. Greeley I urged the policy and justice of mediation as a means of peace and to prevent threatened revolution."

Mr. Jewett also gives a letter he received from Mr Greeley, under date of the 2d ultimo, stating the conditions on which he would advocate a "foreign mediation," being the same with those enforced in the columns of the New York Tribane

The Atlanta (Geo) Intelligencer opposes the proposition

of Mr. HENRY S. FOOTE, introduced into the Confederate Congress, and which looks to the admission of the Western States into the Southern Confederacy. It says:

"We are fighting this war for Southern indepen and for a Government of Southern States recognising African slavery as an institution ordained of God, beneficial to mankind, a necessity in our social and political relations as States, and in intercourse with all other nations or States. Hence the admission of any Free States into our Union is not only repugnant to us, but it will be only a con-tinuance of that evil which has brought on the war, and which to get rid of we are now fighting."

The Washington correspondent of the New York Commercial Advertiser says that some adherents of the Administration "are beginning to talk about the organization of a conservative Republican party that is to support the Administration against radical influences, and that such persons approve the position of Senators Anthony, Dixon, Doolittle, Foster, Harris, King, and Sherman, as announced in the discussion of the bill appropriating money for the abolishment of slavery in Missouri.'

Mr. Wendell Phillips declares the destruction of alayery the only thing to be fought for. That granted, nothing else is wanted. He says:

"I would accept any thing on an anti slavery basis. would accept separation; I would accept compromise; I would accept disunion; I would accept peace, and pay the whole Confederate debt at par, on an anti-slavery basis." At the conclusion of Mr. Phillips's recent speech

Brooklyn (N. Y.) Mr. Tilton rose and said: "Is it your pleasure to send a message to the President of the United States?

"[Many voices : Yes! Yes!] Then "Resolved, That three thousand men and women of Brooklyn say to Abraham Lincoln: Sir, wherever you see a black man, give him a gun and tell him to save the Re-

"Will you vote that resolution ? [Voices. Yes! yes Amen.] All in favor will say 'aye.' [Many syee.] "He then said: 'Let any man who says no, write him

self a traitor and go home." [Applauce.] The choir then savg a hymn with a John Brown chorus. and the audience retired.

The Richmond Dispatch of the 30th ultimo strives to seep up the spirits of the Southern people by loud predictions that peace is close at hand, and it thus sete forth the reasons on which this faith is based :

" If we meet with no great and unexpected disasters if we do not relax our exertions, the war must virtually be ended by the 1st of June. All the signs of the times, the ascendency of the Democratic party at the North, the par-tial failure of the draft, and the entire cessation of volunteering; the admission by them that a large part of their army goes out of service in May, and that no new recruits can be had to supply their places; the frequent and numerous desertions from their army; their domestic dissensions; their bitter denunciation of Lincoln, his Cabinet, the Abolitionists, and of all New England; the imminence of national bankruptcy; the ruin of their shipping and com mercial interests, and incipient social auarchy, all prove that they can keep up the war but a few months longer. Besides, they know that foreign intervention, however de-layed, must come at last. No doubt they desire it, in order to have a pretext for backing out from the coutest. Even Horace Greekey adm is that they must conquer us in three months, or then make the best peace they can. Indeed, whether between individuals or nations, a big fight must ever be a short fight, because the parties putting out all their strength at once soon become exhausted. The North

CALIFORNIA SENATOR.

SAN FRANCISCO, FEB. 10 -John Conness was finally elected Senator, receiving 98 out of the 114 votes. He was formerly a Douglas Democrat, and latterly a member of the Union party. The unrelenting feud between the friends of Congressman Phelps and Mr. Sargent prevented the election of a Senator of Republican antecedents, in accordance with the political bias of a large majority of the Le-

FROM THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC. Correspondence of the Philadelphia Inquirer.

STAFFORD COURT-HOUSE, (VA.) FEB. 9, 1863. In the absence of any thing very absorbing, the attention rev. rts to what may be done in the future. An impression has firmly planted itself in the minds of many here that the Army of the Potemac will be virtually dissolved and transferred to some other locality where a more effective blow can be struck. Many have grown strong in this belief, from the fact that the Ninth, Burneide's old corps, embarked from Aquia Creek Station on transports for some point southward during the past two days. Whether their opinion be correct time alone can determine : but it is bardly likely that it is, as there is but little probability that those high in authority who hold the military reins will slacken them enough to allow the withdrawal of any considerable number of our troops from this locality as long as so many armed rebels remain in Virginia. There is much to confirm the statements that the rebels have withdrawn some of their forces from the vicinity of Fredericksburg. But, notwithstanding this, the rebels are still strong and well fortified in our front. They evince a determination to remain as long as our army continues to be opposite to them. Why we should abandon the field to the enemy at this point no plausible reason can be given. Some urge that at other points he can be more easily attacked and weskened. This is undoubtedly so, but would any thing justify the weakening of our army here to strengthen it at some other point?

NEW YORK, FEB. 11.-The New Haven Palladium states that the Ninth Army Corps, under Gen Smith, has gone to Fort Monroe.

SOUTHERN INTELLIGENCE.

FORTRESS MONROE, FEB. 10.-The flag of truce boat New York arrived this afternoon from City Point, bringing down two hundred and sixty-nine exchanged Union prisoners. Among the released prisoners are two offiers-one a colonel and the other a lieutenant. Richmond papers of Monday, 9th instant, have been

received. The tone of these papers in regard to the cocalled blockade raising has wenderfully changed. The Whig has the following despatch from Charleston: "Robert Bunch, British Consul, sailed from this cit

on the 7th instant on the Cadmus. From the officers of that steamer we learn that the result of the late naval en g-gement was much less substantial than was supposed. No Yankee vessel was sunk. The New Ironsides is still off Charleston bar. She goes out to sea every morning but returns every evening. The impression is that Savau-nah will be attacked before Charleston." The Richmond papers have the following despatch :

" AUGUSTA, FEB. 6 .- Gen. Reynolds's Yankee Division marched to Alexandria, Tonnessee, yesterday, for the purpose of destroying the flouring mills there. A portion of Morgan's forces fought them several hours, but, owing to the strength of the enemy's force, had to fall back '

REBEL REPORTS FROM THE SOUTH New York, FeB 9 .- Despatches from Charleston (S. C.) state reports brought there by the British frigate Cadmus had slarmed the citizens, who were leaving rapidly The rebel correspondence from Fredericksburg states that the Yankee army is likely to be annihil ated at any time by

a sudden dash of the rebels.

At an election held at Wheeling, Visginia, on Thursday last, for a delegate to the State Convention, the New State can lidate was elected by over two hundred majority.

MORE RUMORS OF FRENCH MEDIATION. 1 HALIFAX, FEB. 9.—The steamship Europa, from Liver pool on the 24th of January, arrived here this evening The Paris correspondent of the London Times says has reason to know that official instructions have been sent by the French Government to Washington suggesting that commissioners be delegated by the Federal Govern and the Southern States, to meet on neutral ground, to confer together, without hostilities being suspended, so that

they may advise as to mutual concessions and effect a re-conciliation, so desirable for the interests of the world. The Paris Pays says: "We believe we are able to state that the Government of the Emperor has addressed a comnucleation to Washington, proposing a means of arrange-

ment between the beligerents which would fully protect the dignity-amour propre-of the Americans." The Nord slso says: "France has proposed a convoca ion of an American Congress with a view to peace."

eans has been superseded. He left merely on a leave of Six thousand French troops, reinforcements, have been ordered to Mexico.

The Moniteur denies that the French Consul at New Or-

The ship Pamelia Flood, from New Orleans for Liver pool, has been abandoned at sea. The captain was the only one saved.

The steamship Wm. Corey, from New York for London, put into Falmouth on the 23d, in a leaky condition. The locks were swept. She lost her masts, etc.

FROM FALMOUTH AND RICHMOND.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

A reconnoiseance was completed yesterday on the right wing of the army, accomplishing all the purposes which were intended, and in the most successful manner.

The Richmond papers of the 5th and 6th instant have seen received. They, as usual, contain long extracts from the New York papers, and rather a significant notice of three executions, to take place on the 5th in Richmond. The notice states that executions are so frequent that they excite no attention whatever.

FROM PORT ROYAL.

NEW YORK, FEB. 9 .- The United States gunboats Ciressian and Water Witch arrived here during the night from Port Royal, the latter to repair.

The Circussian has six officers of the rebel steamer Hunrees, burnt by our fleet off Charleston on the 17th ultimo. They report that the neutral British steamers Herald, Hero. and Ariel were at Charleston on the 17th. The Hero is of 2 200 tons, and had 2,400 bales of cotton aboard. The Ariel had over 1,200 bales on board, and was also waiting for a chance to run the blockade. The rebels in Charleston, according to their showing, are well posted in all our miliary and naval movements.

The Circassian is from New Orleans via Port Royal, and took the rebel prisoners on board at the latter port. She has nothing later from New Orleans.

FROM NEW ORLEANS.

New York, FeB 9 -The steamer Marion, from New Orleans on the 2d instant, arrived here this afternoon. Among the passengers is Count Mejan, the late French Consul at New Orleans. No demonstration has yet been made on Port Hudson

No news has recently been received from Galveston. Gen. Banks had issued an order explanatory of 'the Pre-

ident's Emancipation Proc'amation, which order has disappointed many who thought that fugitive slaves would be returned to their owners in that part of the State exempted by the terms of the proclamation. The editor of the True Delta has been rebuked for en-

eavoring to foreshadow the action of Gen. Banks.

Every thing is qu'et in the city of New Orleans. Capt. Miller succeeds Col. Deming as Mayor of that city. The General Williams struck a snag while on the way to the forts and sunk, but all hauds were saved.

THE IRON-CLADS NEAR SAVANNAH.

NEW YORK, FEB. 9 .- A Port Royal letter of the 2d instant says the Montauk has been engaged several days attacking the iron-clad battery on Ogeechee (Georgia) river. The rebels have got much heavier guns than they over used before. They also use steel-pointed shot. Although the turret of the Montauk had been struck sixteen times, the shot all glasced off. Capt. Worden had nearly demolished rebel parapet, and expects soon to capture th

bat'ery behind which lies the steamer Nashville. The Passaic is said to be up Warsaw Sound, and heavy firing was heard there on the 2d instant. The rebel ram

Fingal is in that vicinity. The Patapaco and the Wechawken are both hourly expected.

The harbor of Port Royal is full of vessels, and General Foster and troops had arrived.

SUCCESS OF THE QUEEN OF THE WEST. CHICAGO, FEB. 11 -A special telegram from Cairo, resoived to-day, says that news has been received from Vicksburg up to Saturday. The ram Queen of the West had returned from below. Her trip down the river was in the highest degree successful She met three steamers with provisions for the rebels at Vicksburg, and succeeded in sinking them. She took fifty-six prisoners-one of them a colonel. She went near enough to Port Hudson to draw

fire from the rebel upper battery. THE WAR IN TENNESSEE.

NASHVILLE, FEB. 10.—Our forces entered Lebanon, Tennessee, on the Sth. They captured some six hundred rebels, most of them being men of Morgan's command. Many field officers were taken. Among the prisoners is Paul Anderson, a violent member of the State Legislature of 1860 and 1862. He was an original secessionist and one of the earliest advocates of the Southern Confederacy.

Over one hundred wounded reached here by the care rom Murfreceboro to-night. The first train for Murfreesboro will leave here to-morrow. The river is six feet on the shoals and falling. The rain is now falling heavily.

THE UNION PRISONESS AT GALVESTON. Boston, FEB. 11.-A letter from Capt. Proctor, of the orty-recond Massachusetts Regiment, dated Houston. January 8th, states that his and two other companies of that regiment were captured at Galveston on the 1st. They are at Houston. Capt. Proctor states that Captain Wainwright, Lieut. Lee, and eight of the crew of the Harriet Lane were killed, and that the rest are prisoners. They all receive good treatment, and expect to be soon paroled. Only one was killed and fourteen wounded in the Massachusetts companies.

A RECONNOISSANCE IN VIRGINIA. On Monday Col. Wyndham returned from another reconnoissance. With a considerable cavalry force he scoured the country from Fairfax to Salem and the Blue Ridge at Manassas Gap, east as far as Snicker's Gap, and back to Fairfax Court-house, via Leceburg. Ou this occasion ound no traces of rebels in arms any where in his trip.

A SKIRMISH IN FLORIDA.

NEW YORK, FEB. 9 .- A Fort Clinch (Florida) letter of he 31st states that a fight took place on the St. Mary's river, at Scrubby Bluff, between rebel cavalry and three companies of South Carolina negro volunteers. The rebels attempted to take the steamer John Adams by boarding her, but the negro soldiers beat them off bravely. The captain of the John Adams was shot, and his murderer was shot immediately after by a negro sergeant. Our loss was two men killed and six wounded. We took seven prisoners. The steamer was not injured.

THE PRESENT TO GEN. McCLELLAN - Notwithstand-THE PRESENT TO GEN. MCCLELLAN—Nolwithstanding the assertion to the centrary made by as evening paper, it is a fact that Gen. McClellan has been presented with a house in this city. About two weeks ago he received the brown stone front house known as No. 22 West Thirty-first street, between Fifth and Sixth avenues. The house was filled with the choicest furniture, which was a part of the magnificent present. Gen. McClellan and wife will take possession of the dwelling as soon as they return from their trip "down East"—N. Y. Com. Advert ser.

NARROW ESCAPE.—During the late passage of the iron-clad Weehawken, Capt. Rodgers, from New York to Fortress Monroe, in the height of the severe gale she encountered, one of her officers (Ensign Cox) was washed into the anche of her omeers (kneigh Cox) was washed into the au-chor well forward, passed under the guards, which are be-low the water, and thrown again on the deck without se-rious injury. This was something skin to the former. Dutch punishment of keeihauling, and is an experiment which no one need desire to try a second time.